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Date: July 12, 2000

By: David L. Gaviglio

Kay L. Gaviglio

*D* *S/* *J*  
PATENT

Docket No. GC527

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of )  
David A. Estell et al. ) Group Art Unit: 1644  
Serial No.: 09/060,872 ) Examiner: Saunders, D  
Filed: April 15, 1998 )  
For: Mutant Proteins having Lower )  
Allergenic Response in Humans )  
and Methods for Constructing, )  
Identifying and Producing such )  
Proteins )

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Director for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-captioned patent application, please enter the following amendment and consider the following remarks. For the convenience of the Examiner, the pending claims are attached as Appendix I.

In the Claims.

Please cancel claims 1-12, 15 and 16 and amend claims 13 and 14 as follows:

13. (Twice amended) A method of reducing the allergenicity of a protein comprising the steps of:  
(a) identifying a T-cell epitope in said protein; comprising contacting a peptide comprising said epitope with antigen presenting cells and